

**AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT:**

Please replace the abstract with the following amended paragraph:

A composition and method for reducing serum cholesterol in humans is provided. The composition includes a fatty acid ester of a primary higher fatty alcohol, where the ester compound has an improved effect in lowering cholesterol, as compared with non-esterified primary higher fatty alcohol. The method for reducing serum cholesterol consists of orally administering the composition provided to human subjects.